



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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On the middle level of House expansion space, sparks fly as a worker cuts through steel studs that will be used to frame interior walls.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 9/19/05 through 9/23/05**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza:**

- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, erect masonry block work and metal stud walls, place concrete, install finish stone, and apply plaster to interior spaces.
- Stone crews will continue installing sandstone on the west wall of the Great Hall and inside both Orientation Theaters.
- Stone layout work is complete in the Congressional Auditorium and stone installation will continue in several areas.
- Historic preservation crews continue to install stonework for the historic fountains and lanterns on the plaza.
- Construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center is temporarily suspended as work to address foundation issues is ongoing. Access will be maintained at all times to the House Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance, the South Door Entrance and the House Steps.
- Curb installation will begin next week near the Senate Steps and along the sidewalk that leads to Northwest Drive. Work has been temporarily suspended this week as designers establish the proper elevations for the Senate triangle. While work continues to restore the Senate Plaza and historic elements, pedestrian access will be maintained at all times to the North Door Entrance and the Senate Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance.
- Crews continue layout activities and installation of underslab conduit, ductwork and the floor topping slabs on the lower levels of the House and Senate Expansion Space.



### **East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel**

- First Street continues to be constricted at the intersection with East Capitol Street to allow utility work in this zone. A temporary bridge has been constructed over the work zone at the intersection and one lane of traffic is being maintained in each direction at all times. Access for pedestrians and persons with disabilities is available on the east side of First Street (along the Supreme Court and Library of Congress).
- Utility connections to steam and chilled water lines at Second Street are ongoing. All pre-cast concrete sections are now in place and final excavation work is ongoing near Second Street.
- Crews will begin the installation of 40-foot lengths of utility pipe within the new tunnel.

### **Next Week – 9/26/05 – 9/30/05**

#### **CVC and East Front Plaza Work**

- Crews will continue to install ductwork and piping for all heating, cooling, supply, waste water, fire protection, and electrical systems; build mechanical spaces, install cable trays, place concrete, erect blockwork and metal stud walls, and install finish stone in areas on all three levels of the facility.
- Crews may begin erecting an exterior hoist (elevator for transport of materials) just south of the East Front Center Steps in front of the original House Wing. The hoist will be used to transport mechanical equipment to the upper levels of the Capitol.
- Construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center may resume near the House Steps and House Carriageway. Access will be maintained at all times to the House Carriageway Member and Staff Entrance, the South Door Entrance and the House Steps.
- Restoration of the Senate Plaza is expected to resume with the installation of curb stones. Vehicle access through the Senate Carriageway and to the Senate Steps is available for Member drop-off.
- Installation of pipe will continue inside the new utility tunnel along East Capitol Street between First and Second Streets.



Workers position a steel pipe support inside a new utility tunnel for the CVC. The tunnel will accommodate new chilled water and steam lines.



Stone masons establish guidelines for layout of stone in the Congressional Auditorium.



Stone masons set Tennessee Valley marble along the base of a stairwell near the south Orientation Theater.